

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 10, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable John Carona, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB1028** by Watson (Relating to the use of safety belts while operating or riding in a passenger vehicle; creating an offense.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend the Transportation Code to require a person who is at least 15 years of age to be secured by a safety belt when a passenger in a motor vehicle regardless of where in the vehicle they are a passenger if safety belts are available; whereas under current statute, the requirement applies only if the person who is at least 15 years of age is a passenger in the front seat.

The bill would create as a misdemeanor offense the act of an operator of a motor vehicle that is equipped with safety belts allowing a person who is at least 17 years of age to ride in the vehicle without requiring the other person to be secured by a safety belt. The offense would be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of between \$25 and \$50.

Costs of enforcement and revenue gain from fines imposed are not expected to have a significant fiscal impact.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:**

**LBB Staff:** JOB, KJG, DB